(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SMT.) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (e) The Government of India have decided in principal to give special thrust in the area of Biotechnology in primer institutions including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). This includes graduate, post graduate and doctoral programmes in Biotechnology in phased manner. The Government of India intends to provide special funding for this purpose. Apart from IITs, other institutions shall be picked up on selection basis.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in States

2153. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Project Approval Board for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has approved the District Elementary Education Programmes;

(b) if so, for how many districts the scheme has been approved, State-wise;

(c) the amount involved in this; and

(d) the allocation under this programme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SMT.) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Project Approval Board has approved the Annual Work Plans for 2001-2002 for various States, details of which are given below:—

(Rupees in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of District Plans approved	Approved Outlay
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	53.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	3.57
3.	Assam	23	76.52
4.	Bihar	18	67.12
5.	Chhatisgarh	16	7.80
6.	Goa	0	0

1	2	3	4
7.	Gujarat	23	41.56
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12	16.18
9.	Haryana	19	4.96
10.	Jharkhand	22	13.36
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0
12.	Karnataka	27	65.09
13.	Kerala	14	23.73
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45	64.62
15.	Maharashtra	35	104.49
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	7	18.71
18.	Mizoram	8	10.18
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Orissa	30	74.75
21.	Punjab	17	129.81
22.	Rajasthan	19	7.54
23.	Sikkim	1	1.46
24.	Tamil Nadu	30	68.63
25.	Tripura	4	10.48
26.	Uttaranchal	13	25.79
27.	Uttar Pradesh	70	180.30
28.	West Bengal	17	35.47
29.	A & N Islands	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0
31.	D & N Haveli	0	0
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	4	0.38
	TOTAL:	512	1106.26

(d) No State-wise earmarking of funds/allocation is made under the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The qantum of funds released to the States depends on the requirements projected in the District Elementary Education Plans (DEEPs), the appraisal of these plans and approval of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Research in traditional subjects

2154. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that University Grants Commission has now started focussing research in traditional subjects like Sanskrit and occult sciences;

(b) if so, the details of such proposed research;

(c) whether the UGC circulated a set of guidelines to all the UGC funded institutions in this respect; and

(d) what are the other thrust areas that UGC is giving priority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), it has not circulated any set of guidelines to the UGC funded institutions to focus research in traditional subjects like Sanskrit and occult sciences. However, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved starting of the B.A./M.A./Ph.D. course of Jyotir Vigyan in some selected universities from the Academic Session 2001-2002. Out of the 20 universities selected for this purpose, 18 universities have agreed to start the course.

(d) The other UGC priority areas are for promoting excellence and quality, for making education relevant and for enhancing the access and equity in the university system.

Translation of outstanding works

2155. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any step to facilitate translation of more and more number of outstanding works of eminent writers of various Indian languages into English and other Indian languages, to help the cause of national and linguistic integration; and